

# Sampling the mantle transition zone regional P-waves

## Structure and sources

Simon Stähler, Karin Sigloch, and Heiner Igel

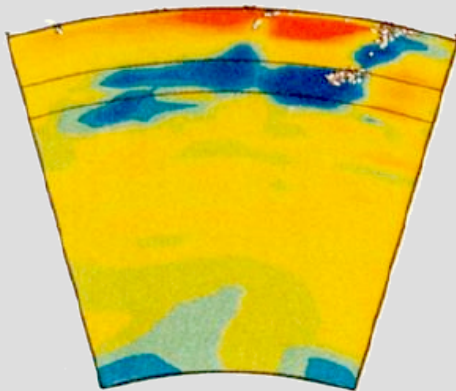
Geophysik  
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Seismology Special Seminar October 13, 2011

# The Mantle Transition Zone

Open questions:

- Temperature alone cannot explain the depth variations
- Mineralogical possibility of large amounts of water
- Seismic indications for low velocity zones above 660



Fukao et al. (2001)

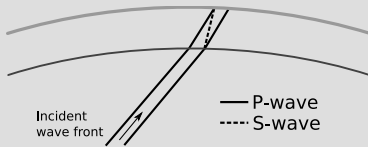
# Why study the mantle transition zone?

Questions to seismology:

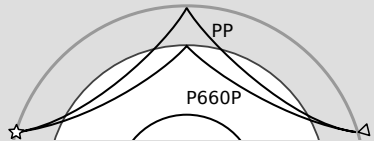
- How large are the undulations of the discontinuities?
- Do low velocity zones (melt?) exist at the discontinuities?
- Are they related to subducted slabs?

# Exploring the transition zone with *converted* waves

Receiver functions:

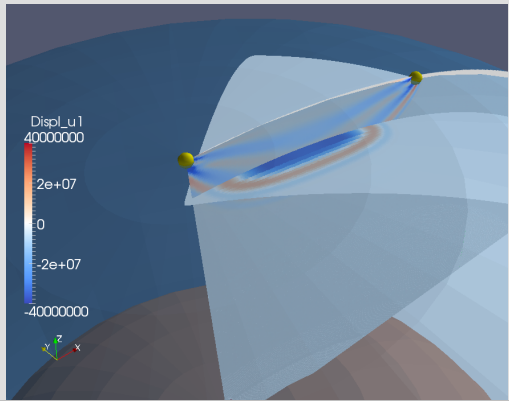
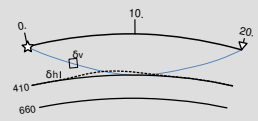
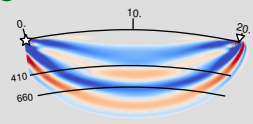
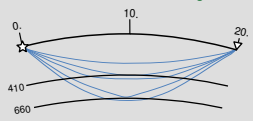


Underside reflections:

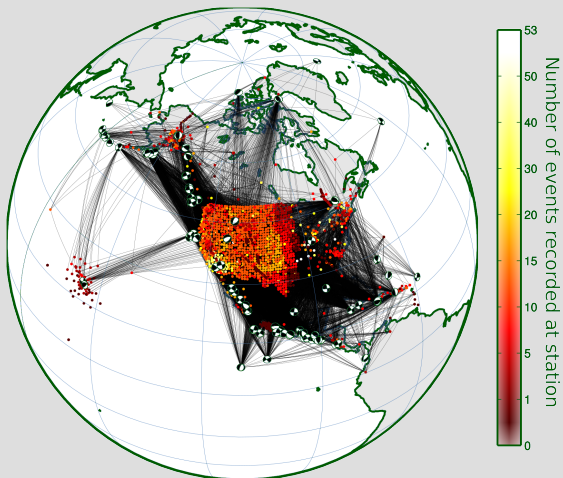


Can we really not use *transmitted* waves?

# Discontinuity kernels



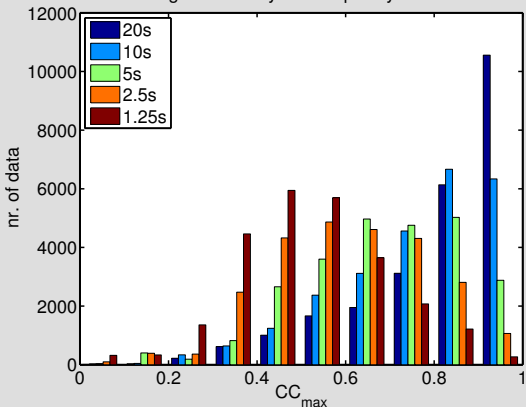
The dataset - 92 earthquakes, 2724 stations: 25310 rays



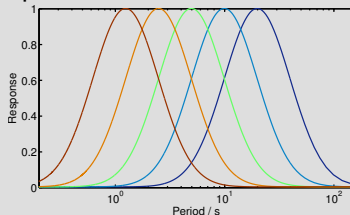
Only regional P-waves ( $22-35^\circ$ ) sampling the 660 are shown.

# Waveform fit overview

Signal similarity in 5 frequency bands

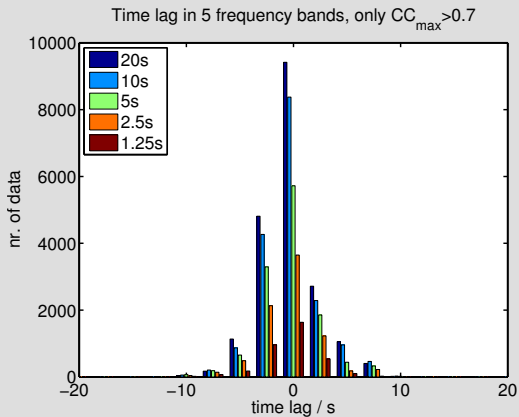


5 Gabor filters, one octave apart, one octave wide



In total: 25310 waveforms in 5 frequency bands = 126550 potential data

# The time lag: The Good and the Bad



20 s	19774 data
10 s	17510 data
5 s	12581 data
2.5 s	8096 data
1.25 s	3523 data
<hr/>	
total	76043 data
out of	126550 data



## Source Inversion

- Catalogues vary greatly on source parameters
- For tomography we need STF estimation (which no catalogue gives)
- Bayesian inversion to get full pdfs and correlations between parameters

## Source parameters

Bayesian inversion gets prohibitively expensive for large (>12) number of parameters

Classically:	no. of params
Source location	
Latitude, longitude, depth	3
Source orientation	
Moment tensor	6
Double-couple	3
Source time function	
Rise time or "triangle duration"	1
$\Sigma$	7 or 10

## Parametrization of STF

STF is 25.6 s long and sampled with 10 Hz, so 256 samples.

- Samplewise:

$$S(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{256} \delta(k \cdot dt) \cdot a_k$$

- By Frequency:

$$S(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{128} \left( a_k \cdot \cos\left(k \frac{2\pi t}{T}\right) + b_k \cdot \sin\left(k \frac{2\pi t}{T}\right) \right)$$

- Wavelets:

$$S(t) = \sum_{k=1}^N S_k(t) \cdot a_k$$

Since the bandwidth is  $\lesssim 1$  Hz, there are only 25 d.o.f.

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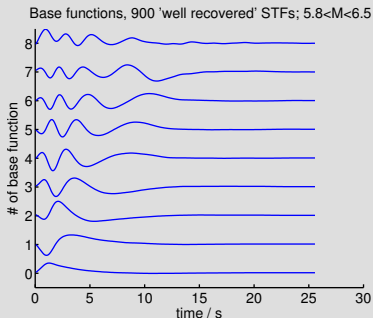
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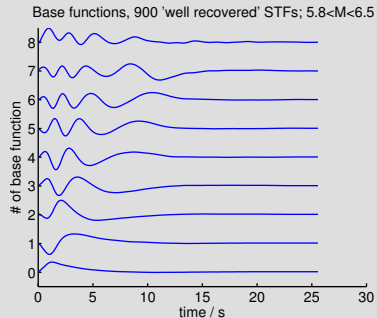
# Wavelets

- There are all kinds of wavelets - which one is suited best to our example?
- Tailored wavelets: Empirical Orthogonal Functions:  
Tries to find a base, where the first few base functions explain most of the variance in the dataset, using Principal Component Analysis
- EOF base constructed from our library of 963 “well resolved” STF.



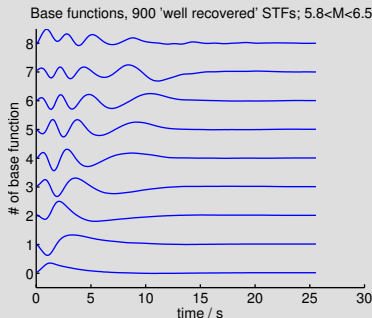
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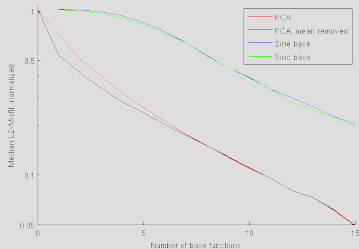
## Misfit reduction

Calculate misfit reduction for different number of parameters

- The EOF base is per definition the best base to construct the members
- But it may not be the best base for all STFs

Decision:

- Take 8 STF basefunctions (normalized misfit: 10%)
- + 4 additional parameters (depth and DC orientation)



## Bayesian inversion

Inversion is done using the Neighbourhood Algorithm (Sambridge 2000)

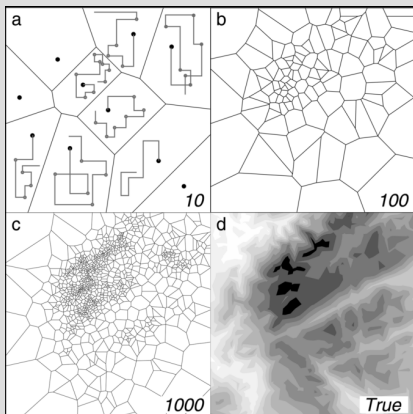
- Splits model space into voronoi cells
- Refines resolution around well fitting models

Our implementation

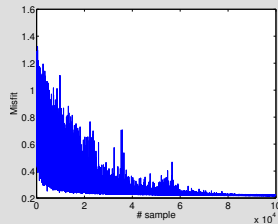
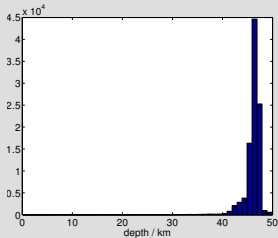
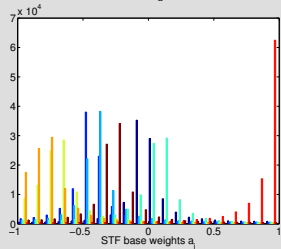
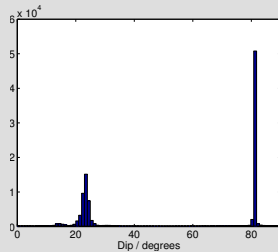
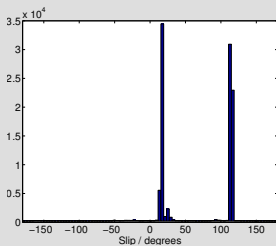
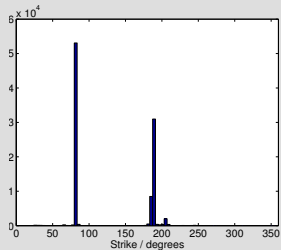
- Forward code: WKBJ
- $10^5$  forward iterations
- Misfits: CC, L1 or L2

Possible drawbacks:

- Strike and Slip are cyclical



# Results (Histograms)



## Results (Movie)

Movie depiction of result:

- Show random samples from final set of models
- Likelihood of model to show up in movie is likelihood of it to be true (in a Bayesian sense)
- The algorithm chooses a strange solution